



## **City Administrator Monthly Update November 2012**

**By City Administrator Mike Story**



### **Administration**

#### **City Offices Closed**

In an effort to reduce costs, the City and Non-Safety Unions have agreed to close City offices during the Winter Holiday. City offices will be closed from Monday, December 24, 2012, thru Tuesday, January 1, 2013. City offices will resume normal business hours at 7:00 am on Wednesday, January 2, 2013.

In addition to the above dates, City offices will be closed in observance of the following Holidays in 2012:

- Veteran's Day – Monday, November 12
- Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 22 – City offices have traditionally been closed on Monday following the Thanksgiving Holiday. However, this year, City offices will be open on Monday, November 26.

### **City Clerk**

#### **Rialto Certified Farmers Market**

Every Wednesday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, the City of Rialto hosts its Certified Farmer's Market through the Healthy Rialto program which promotes healthy eating and healthy living with local businesses and growers. Certified farmers and growers sell a variety of fresh vegetables, fruits and nuts at a reasonable cost



to consumers. For the month of November, Rialto residents can enter to win a free turkey or \$25 Farmers Bucks by showing proof of purchase at the Healthy Rialto booth (one entry per household). Come out and see what our local growers have to offer!



### **Administrative & Community Services**

#### **Finance Division**

The Finance Division is currently working on closing our Fiscal Year 2011-2012 and preparing for the City's annual audit which is scheduled to commence during the month of November.

Finance is also working with the Development Services Department to wind down the operation of the Rialto Redevelopment Agency. During the month of October, staff completed the low-mod housing fund due diligence review, and in November, auditors will be on hand to review the remaining Redevelopment funds.

## Recreation Division

### Halloween Hi-Jinks 2012



Thousands of Rialto children and their parents attended the Halloween Hi-Jinks in downtown Rialto on Halloween night from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Both sides of Riverside Avenue, in-between Rialto Avenue and First Street, were filled with games, rides, community organizations, music, food and LOTS OF CANDY! Thanks to the many volunteers and incredible support from the Public Works Department and Police

Department, all in attendance appeared to have a fantastic time. We hope to see all of you downtown for Halloween Hi-Jinks 2013!

### Rialto Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Join us at the Johnson Center Gymnasium at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 17, 2012 to honor the 2012 Rialto Hall of Fame inductees. This year's inductees are:

Richard Cardosi  
Coach ~ Eisenhower High School

Garrett Palmer  
Player ~ Indoor Football League

Scott Richardson  
Scout ~ Major League Baseball - Angels

Ryan Jacob Clady  
Player ~ National Football League – Denver Broncos

David E. Japs  
Founder/Coach ~ Rialto Roadrunners

### 2012 Holiday Parade and Festival

Get the holiday season off to a great start by attending the 2012 Rialto Holiday Parade and Festival! Bring the kids and the entire family to downtown Rialto on Saturday, December 8, 2012. The parade starts at 10:00 am and includes marching bands, Rialto Fire Department, Rialto Police Department, cheer squads, community groups and, of course, Santa and Mrs. Clause too! In addition, there will be a holiday street festival in downtown Rialto (along the parade route) which will include arts/crafts, food other vendor booths, games, jumpers and much more!

## Human Resources Division

### Job Opportunities

The City of Rialto is currently recruiting for the following positions:

Position Title	Application Deadline
Accounting Supervisor	November 21, 2012
Police Records Supervisor	Open Until Filled

Please visit the City of Rialto's website at [www.rialtoca.gov](http://www.rialtoca.gov) to apply.

## Career Vision: Employment Boot Camp!

Presenter: Jamie Beck, MS

Date: February 20, 2013

Time: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Location: Rialto Senior Center

To RSVP, please call (909) 820-2540 ... Seating is limited to **60**!

- About the Workshop:

“Whether someone has been searching for a job for two weeks or two years, this workshop provides imaginative ideas to turn their job search process from reactive to proactive and puts them in the driver's seat. Participants will learn how to NOT be their own worst enemy and find a job based on their passion and interests, using innovative search techniques and learn effective resume writing and interview techniques.” – Jamie Beck, MS

- Presenter Bio:

Presenter, Jamie Beck, has a Master's Degree in Human Services with an emphasis in Social Systems and a concentration in Family and Work and She has worked for California Department of Education and First 5 funded programs in the public and nonprofit sector, has been a CSU Career Counselor, owns and operates Baby Elephant Books, presents career education workshops and trainings at libraries, high schools, colleges and community organizations, keynotes at conferences and offers private career coaching.

## **Police Department**

### **City-Sourced “App”**

City-Sourced delivers custom mobile reporting applications to our residents across all the major smart-phone platforms (iPhone, Android, Blackberry, & Windows Phone). City-Sourced provides a simple platform empowering residents to identify public safety issues (gang activity, narcotics activity, graffiti, abandoned vehicles etc.) and report them to the Police Department, Code Enforcement, or Public Works for resolution. This application is NOW available! For more visit our website at [www.rialtopd.com](http://www.rialtopd.com).



### **Coffee with the Chief**



“Coffee with the Chief” offers resident's an opportunity to personally meet their Police Chief and other representatives in a casual setting. At “Coffee with the Chief” community members will learn about the police department, special projects, and other related events. Please join Chief Tony Farrar for “Coffee with the Chief” Tuesday November 13, 2012 at Coffee Nutzz, 119 E. Foothill from 8:00 to 9:00 am.

## **RPD Community Liaison Officer – Officer Cameron Nelson**

Officer Cameron Nelson has been assigned as the Department's "Community Liaison Officer." This position was created to be a vital link between the community, business owners and the Police Department; building on the strong foundation that is already in place through the Area Command Program. Officer Nelson will handle a variety of duties to include supervision of the Department's volunteer force and explorer programs, conducting presentations to service clubs, local businesses, schools, and churches on what's happening in the police department, and attending Area Command meetings.

### **Reminder - Rialto PD is on Facebook!**

**facebook**

Facebook allows law enforcement to connect with their communities, post news and alerts, investigate and even solve crimes using information they collect through the site. It's a great way to get feedback, hear opinions, and engage in dialogue with the community you serve. Keep up with what's happening in your community. Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/RialtoPD>

### **Canine Narcotics Seizure**

On September 18, 2012 Officer Joe Maltese and K9 Smoky responded to the 100 block of north Sycamore on a narcotics search. K9 Smoky located 157 pounds of methamphetamine in the rear yard, buried in five gallon containers.



### **Bulletproof Vest Grant 2012**

The Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP), created by the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998 is a unique U.S. Department of Justice initiative designed to provide a critical resource to state and local law enforcement. Since 1999, over 13,000 jurisdictions have participated in the BVP Program, with \$277 million in federal funds committed to support the purchase of an estimated 800,000 vests. The Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) administers the BVP Program. This year, the Police Department has been awarded \$10,480.50.

### **National Police Canine Association**

During the week of October 8, 2012 the National Police Canine Association held its annual conference in Fort Myers, Florida. The Rialto Police Department has a seat on this national organization: chaired by our own Canine Officer Glen Anderson. Glen is our west coast representative, which includes the states of Hawaii, California, Oregon and Washington. The goal of this organization is raise the standard for police K-9's nationwide and work with the federal government in creating a national standard that all



departments will soon have to follow. Next year the NPCA conference will be held on the west coast and our department is considering hosting the event!

### **Commercial Vehicle Safety Program Grant 2013**

The Police Department has applied for federal funding to expand its efforts relating to commercial vehicle safety. If awarded, this grant would provide personnel and equipment necessary to ensure the three main components of the grant are met: safety, education, and enforcement. The grant amount being is \$275,000.

### **A New Look for PD Patrol and Canine Cars**



The Police Department's has a new look for its patrol and canine cars. The Canine Officers will now be driving the Ford Utility Interceptor. This is a more versatile vehicle and will be a welcome addition to the Department's fleet. Patrol Officers will be driving the new Ford Police Interceptor.



### **Regional Air Support Unit – Update**

During the months of August and September 2012, the air unit logged 196.6 flight hours. The air unit handled 327 calls for service, was first on-scene 129 of the 327 calls, and was involved in 88 arrests, 6 perimeters, 8 vehicle pursuits, and 2 foot pursuits.



### **4th Annual Public Safety Volunteers Recognition Event**



On October 19, 2012, RUSD Staff and Pride Platoon Boot Camp Volunteers Barbara Roadarmel and Lizette Escobedo were honored at the 4th Annual Public Safety Volunteer Recognition Event held by Assembly Member Wilmer Amina Carter's Office. The purpose of this event is to recognize those dedicated individuals who assist public safety.

## **Fire Department**

### **A New Approach to Emergency Resource Deployment**

As part of our ongoing commitment to providing excellent patient care with prompt response times, the Fire Department will be taking a new approach in the way that they deploy their resources to medical calls for service. The traditional method of response for 9-1-1 calls is to send the same number of emergency units to every call for medical help regardless of the medical severity of the call. This is common among most fire departments.

However, beginning this November 6, 2012, the Rialto Fire Department will begin using a new system of dispatching that will identify the level of severity of each 9-1-1 medical call, and tailor the response to the patients' needs. We know from studying our calls for service that although every 9-1-1 call is important, not every call is a true time sensitive emergency. A number of them are relatively minor, and can be handled just as effectively with fewer units.

The new system, known as the Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS), uses medically based criteria to determine how many resources need to be sent to each call. By using this method of prioritization, the Fire Department can keep more resources available to handle the high volume of medical calls that come in through the 9-1-1 system. A study of MPDS usage in similar cities has shown that it can reduce response times to some the most critical medical emergencies by over 30%. These represent vital minutes that can make a significant difference in improving the survivability of the patient. The Rialto Fire Department is proud to be one of the first fire agencies in the region to use this innovative approach to maximizing the effectiveness our emergency resources.

### **Public Safety Volunteer Award**



Every year, California Assemblywoman Wilmer Amina Carter presents a Public Safety Volunteer Award to a person from each district she represents including Rialto. This year, Michael Ramirez was selected for his work coordinating the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training for the City of Rialto. Michael has committed an incredible amount of time and energy teaching our community members about disaster preparedness and how to deal with hazards that may impact their area. The program also provides training in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

These programs are vital to the community during major incidents when our police and fire resources can quickly become overwhelmed and unable to be in all the places that they are needed. If you are interested in becoming a CERT member and receiving the required training, please contact Battalion Chief Frank Bekker at (909) 820-2501, or visit the CERT page on our website at [http://www.rialtoca.gov/fire\\_642.php](http://www.rialtoca.gov/fire_642.php).

### **New Grant Benefits Disaster Response Capability**

This October, the City of Rialto received nearly \$20,000 through the 2011 Emergency Management Performance Grant for San Bernardino County. The purpose of these grant funds is to increase the City's capacity to deal with catastrophic events, increase resilience, and help with recovery in the aftermath. To meet those goals, this round of grant funds were directed towards purchasing radio equipment that will be used by the Rialto Amateur Radio Club to assist with disaster operations. During a disaster or other emergency event when normal communications modes are disrupted, these radios a vital tool for maintaining communication among and between local, state and federal agencies. The equipment purchased will enhance the City's capability to communicate with other Radio operators throughout the region.



The Rialto Fire Department is a strong supporter of the Rialto Amateur Radio Group and we appreciate their volunteer efforts to serve the community. If you are interested in finding out more about what this group does, or becoming a member, visit their website at <http://www.k6ria.net/>.

## Fire Prevention Open House



The Fire Department's Open house was held on October 13<sup>th</sup>, and was a huge success with over 1,000 people in attendance. Attendees were treated to an auto extrication demo, a roof top rescue, fire engine rides, police car rides and a coloring corner from the kids. There was great participation from the police department, US Forest Service, and other businesses in the community. The San Bernardino City Fire Department loaned their fire safety house, which gave participants an opportunity learn fire safe procedures in the home and how to escape in case of a fire. Volunteers from Mt San Antonio College gave the kids a tour of the safety house, taught the kids about hazards in the home, and provided fire safety informational handouts. And, to make sure everyone was well fed, Rialto Fire Explorers did a pancake breakfast and a hot dog lunch. The proceeds from their efforts will be used to send members of our explorer post the Explorer Leadership Camp and the Regional Fire Explorer Academy coming up this month.



## Breast Cancer Awareness Event

On October 19, Firefighters participated in a cancer awareness event at Coffee Nutzz on Foothill Blvd. Sporting their pink T-shirts, the Rialto Firefighters assisted with the event which was also a Halloween festival for the kids. The Firefighters served



hotdogs, posed for pictures and greeted the guests as they enjoyed this important event. The Rialto Fire Department supports the nationwide effort to reduce breast cancer and raise awareness to this killer disease. During the month of October, the Rialto Firefighters have worn pink T-shirts to support the cause for cancer awareness.



## The Haunted Fire Station

The Rialto Firefighters turned Fire Station 201 on Willow Ave. into a frightening fun evening on October 27 and 28 as they hosted the first annual Halloween Haunted Fire Station event. The event offered everything from a tour of the haunting scenes taking place in the basement of the building to face painting, carnival games, and food in the main fire engine bays. Volunteers and role players consisted of our firefighters and their families, Fire and Police Explorers, and local college students. The event was well attended and was great fun for everyone involved.



## Notable Incidents

### Vehicle Crashes into Rialto Retirement Home



On October 12<sup>th</sup>, at 11:37 am, Rialto firefighters responded to 1400 Block of S. Riverside (Rialto Retirement Home) for a vehicle accident. On arrival, fire crews found a passenger vehicle which had driven through a wall and stopped halfway into an unoccupied room. Fire personnel had to break the back window of the car out so the driver could be assisted out of the vehicle. Thankfully, the driver sustained only minor injuries. No residents of the retirement home were injured in the collision.

### Rialto Firefighters assist San Bernardino County with a 340 Acre Brush Fire

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, at 12:18 pm, Rialto Fire personnel assisted San Bernardino County Fire on a vegetation fire at Sierra and Riverside Ave. Rialto Engine 202, Medic Engine 204, BC804 and BC805 responded and provided fire control and incident command support of the greater alarm incident. The fire broke out during a Santa Ana wind event, which caused the fire to spread quickly. Thanks to the quick action of our firefighters, no structures were lost, and the fire was kept out of the Rialto City Limits.



## **Fall Back on Sound Advice: Time to Change Your Clock AND Your Smoke Alarm Batteries**

As our nation moves back to Standard Time beginning November 4, the Rialto Fire Department encourages you to mark the occasion as a time to test your home smoke alarms and replace the batteries if more than one year old.

Every day in the United States, needless home fire deaths occur. Working smoke alarms significantly increase your chance of surviving a deadly home fire. A properly installed and maintained smoke alarm is the only thing in your home that can alert you and your family to a fire 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Whether you're awake or asleep, a working smoke alarm is constantly on alert scanning the air for fire and smoke.

## **Winter Safety Tips**

- Install a smoke alarm near bedrooms and on each floor of your home. Test it monthly. If it has a 9-volt battery, change the battery twice a year.
- Install a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm near bedrooms and on each floor of your home. If your alarm sounds call 911, and immediately move to fresh air (either outdoors or near an open door or window). Know the symptoms of CO poisoning: headache, fatigue, dizziness, and shortness of breath. If you experience any of these symptoms, get fresh air right away and contact a doctor for proper diagnosis.
- Make sure heating equipment is installed properly. Have a trained specialist inspect and tune up your heating system each year.
- Keep portable space heaters at least 3 feet from anything that can burn, including bedding, furniture, and clothing. Never drape clothing over a space heater to dry.



- Keep children and pets away from space heaters. Never leave children in a room alone when a space heater is in use.
- Have your fireplace chimney and flue inspected each year and cleaned if needed. Open the flue and use a sturdy fireplace screen when you have a fire. Burn only untreated wood; never burn paper or pine branches--pieces can float out the chimney and ignite your roof, a neighbor's roof, or nearby trees.
- If you use a wood-burning stove, have the chimney connection and flue checked each year. Make sure the stove is placed on an approved stove board to protect the floor from heat and coals.
- Never use your range or oven to heat your home, even for a short time.

## **Development Services Department**

### **Rialto Commerce Center**

Howard Industrial Partners has recently submitted a design review application for the development of the much anticipated Rialto Commerce Center. The proposal includes the development one (1) 1,373,000 square foot warehouse building, one (1) 754,000 square foot warehouse building, and one (1) 344,000 square foot warehouse building on 122 acres of vacant land located at the NWC of Cactus Avenue and El Rivino Road within the M-1 (Light Industrial) zone. The Rialto Commerce Center EIR was certified on April 12, 2011 by the Rialto City Council. The proposal has already received preliminary approval by the Planning Division and is now scheduled for review and approval by the Development Review Committee on November 13, 2012.

### **Family Dollar Store Opens for Business**

On October 23, 2012 the newly completed Family Dollar Store was finalized by city inspectors and the company was given permission to open as soon as the shelves were stocked. This store is located on south side of Baseline Road just east of Willow Avenue. A second store is slated for construction in the next few weeks and will be located on the corner of Riverside Avenue and James Street, one block south of Merrill Ave. These stores incorporate the latest exterior designs and include desert landscaping to help with water conservation. Family Dollar Store is a discount variety store, where you'll find products from groceries, health and beauty products, household goods and clothing. Family Dollar stores also carry some national brands.



### **Target Cold Storage Facility goes Vertical!**

After spending the better part of 2011 moving dirt and constructing off-site public improvements, Target is finally going vertical with its cold storage facility at the southwest corner of Renaissance Parkway and Laurel Avenue. The steel skeleton has risen from the ground and the concrete tilt up walls will soon be formed and poured with concrete. Some of these panels will be up to 80' in length. Target expects to open the 499,000 square foot facility next summer.



## AutoZone

AutoZone is preparing to develop a new 7,370 square foot retail building on a vacant pad within the Stater Brothers shopping center located on the south side of Bloomington Avenue between Larch Avenue and Spruce Avenue. AutoZone will close their current operation within the same shopping center and move into the new building. The new building will be larger than their current space, and it will be closer to the street, which will provide better visibility. The project was approved by the Development Review Committee on September 11, 2012, and the project is now in plan check with both the Building and Engineering Divisions.

## Cory Briggs Files Appeal of Wal-Mart Project to California Supreme Court

On August 24, 2012 the Court of Appeal (Fourth Appellate District/Division Two) rejected Cory Briggs' request to reconsider the opinion in favor of the City of Rialto which was filed on July 31, 2012. We had hoped that this would end the litigation against Wal-Mart and allow the project to proceed.

Unfortunately, Cory Briggs has now submitted a request for review by the California Supreme Court. The grounds for Supreme Court consideration are largely legal and technical, but we have been advised that Supreme Court action on this matter is unlikely as there are no significant precedential issues to resolve. It usually takes 60-90 days for a decision to be made whether to consider the case in an upcoming session of the Court.

Courts in California have been resolving more and more of these lawsuits in favor of the cities and Wal-Mart. The lawsuits have delayed but have not prevented the projects from proceeding, and they have not generally resulted in any material changes to the projects. The City approved this project back in 2008, coming up on five years of litigation.

<p>IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA</p> <p>~ ~ ~ ~ ~</p> <p>After a Decision of the Court of Appeal Fourth Appellate District, Division Two Docket no. E052253</p> <p>San Bernardino County Superior Court case no. CIVSS 810834 (Judge Donald R. Alvarez)</p> <p>=====</p> <p>RIALTO CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBLE GROWTH, <i>Plaintiff and Respondent,</i></p> <p>v.</p> <p>CITY OF RIALTO; REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF RIALTO, <i>Defendants and Appellants,</i></p> <p>WAL-MART STORES, INC., <i>et al.</i> <i>Real Parties in Interest and Appellants.</i></p> <p>~ ~ ~ ~ ~</p> <p>Rialto Citizens for Responsible Growth's Petition for Review</p> <p>BRIGGS LAW CORPORATION [BLC file: 1366.20] Cory J. Briggs (State Bar no. 176284) Mekaela M. Gladden (State Bar no. 253673) 99 East "C" Street, Suite 111 Upland, CA 91786 Telephone: 909-949-7115 E-mail: cory@briggslawcorp.com; mekaela@briggslawcorp.com</p> <p><i>Attorneys for Plaintiff and Respondent Rialto Citizens for Responsible Growth</i></p>
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## City Celebrates Completion of Park Place Apartments



On October 18, 2012 the City of Rialto and Oppertune Companies celebrated the Grand Opening of the Park Place Apartments. The Rialto Housing Authority initiated this project in 2009 to revitalize the 300 West Block of Jackson Street. This problem neighborhood was beset with dilapidated housing and elevated criminal activity. The neighborhood has been transformed into a beautiful gated community with on-

site management and social services. A total of 38 fully rehabilitated rental units are available for families who satisfy eligibility requirements. In addition, the remaining four property owners in the project area have joined the owner's association and will abide by the rules and regulations for the project. The total project cost was \$11.5 million, with funding from the former Redevelopment Agency Low-Mod Housing, Federal Tax Credits and the Federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program. Phase 3 of the project consisting of 8 additional units will commence later this year.

### **County of San Bernardino to Hold Foreclosure Prevention Events**

The County of San Bernardino is sponsoring several foreclosure prevention events to assist homeowners. Event flyers can be obtained at the City's main website at [www.rialtoca.gov](http://www.rialtoca.gov) under "Foreclosure Prevention Events".

Neighborhood Partnership Housing Services in Ontario will host foreclosure prevention workshops on the following dates (all Saturday) from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm: November 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>; December 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The workshops will be held at 320 W. "G" Street, Suite 103, Ontario, CA 91762.

Additional information can be obtained at:

<http://nphs.info/foreclosure-prevention-solutions-2/foreclosure-intake-forms/>.

Bank of America will also hold foreclosure prevention seminars for their customers on Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> in San Bernardino from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Additional information can be obtained at:

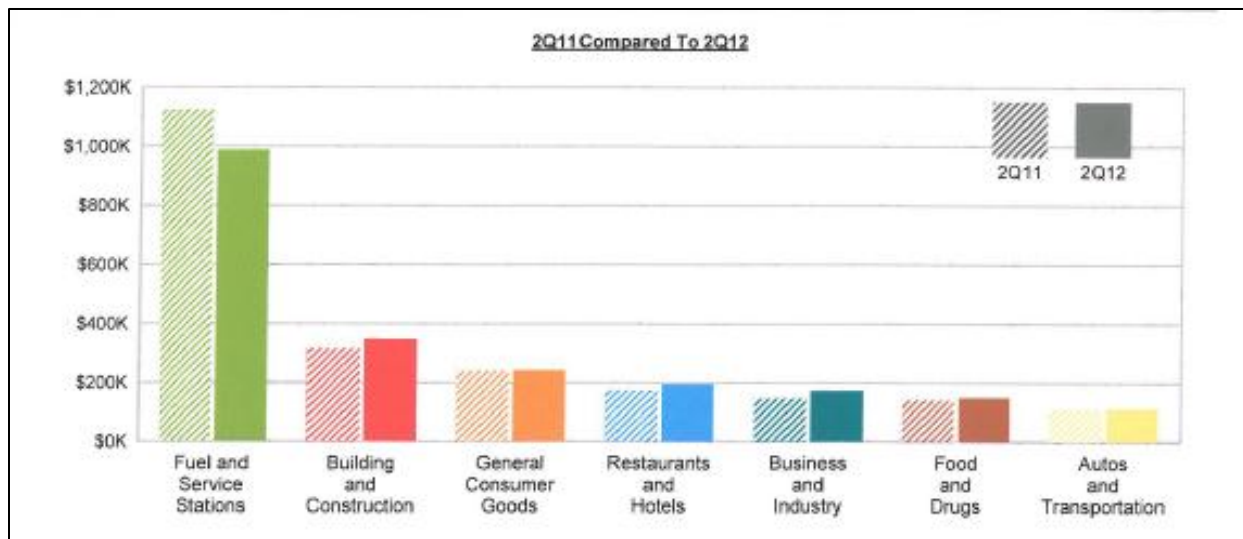
<https://homeloanhelp.bankofamerica.com/EventRegistration/en/events.jspx>.

### **Rialto Retail Sales Show Slight Increase for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2012**

According to the latest statistics provided by the HdL Companies, taxable retail sales increased by 1.1% from the 2Q/2011 to the 2Q/2012, after adjusting for accounting aberrations. This compares with an 8.7% growth rate for the County of San Bernardino.

New automobile sales drove the strong countywide (and statewide) performance as consumers rushed to replace aging vehicles and take advantage of historically low finance rates. Because there are no new car dealerships in Rialto, Rialto's growth rate could not keep pace with the County's. In addition, fuel sales declined by 12.2% and this sector represents the backbone of Rialto's taxable retail sales base – sluggish sales in this sector have a pronounced effect on Rialto.

The chart below shows that, other than fuel sales, all other industry groups showed improvement over the period of comparison. The Building and Construction Group was particularly strong (+10.4%) as some of the City's heavy construction supply companies had strong quarters, including Rialto Concrete Pipe, American Building Supply, and Holiday Rock. Restaurant sales were also boosted with the addition of Panda Express and general sales growth from existing restaurants (+12.6%). The Business and Industry Group also performed very well (+18.4%), with strong business service and equipment sales.



Full year sales tax receipts (based upon a four quarter moving average calculation excluding pool allocations) are now approximately \$8.5 million, down from a peak of approximately \$12.2 million in 2008. Current sales reflect what the City actually recorded in 2003.

HdL forecasts moderate growth for all retail sales categories, except for fuel sales (a disconcerting trend due to Rialto's dependency). According to HdL, consumers are reducing fuel consumption as a result of higher fuel prices and more fuel efficient car purchases which are replacing the gas guzzlers still on the road.

## Public Works

### Pepper Avenue Extension

The Pepper Avenue Extension Project consists of extending Pepper Avenue 2,900 feet from its current terminus to south of the 210 Freeway.

Construction has started and current progress includes clearing and grubbing, importing of fill dirt, setting exclusionary fencing in the wash area, and encasement of a 20" existing waterline. In addition, two 10' by 10' box culverts have been constructed and installed, and the contractor is working on a third one. These large box culverts are required to pass storm water underneath the extension of Pepper Avenue. Concrete retaining (crib) walls are also under construction. These crib walls are required because the extension of Pepper Avenue will be elevated above the surrounding area, and the crib walls act to hold up the elevated roadway. Once the box culverts and crib walls are completed, the roadway will be completed and utilities will be extended prior to paving.





The City and SANBAG previously agreed to separate the extension of Pepper Avenue into two parts. The part being constructed by the City will extend Pepper Avenue to the Caltrans fence line (south of the 210 Freeway). The second part to be constructed by SANBAG will complete the extension of Pepper Avenue to Highland Avenue, including construction of new ramps to the 210 Freeway. It is not expected that SANBAG will complete their part of the project until 2015, so the City is coordinating with SANBAG to complete the extension of 2-lanes of Pepper Avenue to Highland Avenue in advance of SANBAG's project to construct a new 210 Freeway Interchange at Pepper Avenue. Construction of the City's part of the project is scheduled for July 2013.

### **Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Improvements – Merle Casey Elementary School**

The City of Rialto, in partnership with the Rialto Unified School District (RUSD), submitted an application to the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for a Federal Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Program requesting grants to install an In-Roadway Warning Light (IRWL) system along with Curb, Gutter, Sidewalk, and ADA improvements in the vicinity of Merle Casey Elementary School.

The IRWL system consists of amber lights embedded in the pavement on both sides of the crosswalk markings. The system would enhance pedestrian safety and increase visibility of pedestrians crossing the street by alerting drivers to exercise caution as they enter the school zone. There are currently significant barriers to walking and cycling to school created by nonstop traffic in front of the school. Unfortunately, this creates a significant risk to children trying to cross the street to Merle Casey Elementary School.



The adjacent residential neighborhood also lacks sidewalks for children to walk to school on. The parkway strip between the street curb and property line fences is part of the City's street right-of-way, and this project proposes to construct new sidewalks along this area. The City is currently coordinating with property owners that will be affected by the construction, to work in ways to minimize removal of existing landscaping required to construct the new sidewalk. The City has scheduled a neighborhood workshop for December 4, 2012 at 6:00 pm, to be held at the Multi-Purpose Room at Merle Casey Elementary School, to discuss the project.

The plans are being completed with City Council's approval to be scheduled in January 2013, bidding for the project is anticipated for February 2013, and construction to start by April 2013.

### **Ayala Drive Widening**

Ayala Drive is a major arterial street with four lanes in each direction, except between Base Line Road and Easton Street. This bottleneck causes traffic problems and is a significant safety concern for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists. In addition, the current road design may also pose a significant risk to fire personnel trying to return to the fire station located on Ayala Drive. This widening will create a safer route, reduce traffic congestion and improve motorists and pedestrian safety. The project proposes to widen Ayala Drive to its ultimate 4-lane cross-section with a center turn lane and bike lanes.

The segment of roadway to be improved is nearly one mile long and is a major arterial street that was originally constructed in 1974. The limit of the project boundaries are Base Line Road to the south and Renaissance Parkway (previously Easton Street) to the north, and just south of the SR-210 Freeway.



These improvements would contribute greatly towards the City's ongoing effort to provide safe routes for students attending Carter High School and promote a Healthy Rialto by providing a safe environment that encourages residents to walk or bicycle within the City.

The City has recently applied for and received a State-Local Partnership Program (SLPP) grant of \$600,000 for construction of this project.

The City is currently coordinating acquisition of rights-of-way for the widening of Ayala Drive, and expects to complete right-of-way acquisition by the end of next year.

## **Solid Waste Management News**

### Hazardous Household Waste Collection

During the month of October, Solid Waste held their Hazardous Household Waste Collection. The total stats for the event were as follows:

- **237 Resident** served
- **935 gallons** of used motor oil
- **8 pallets** of paint
- **8 drums** of miscellaneous poisons and other toxic liquids
- **7 barrels** of sharps
- **12 vehicle** batteries



During the month of November, the site will be open from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

### Special Collection

This quarter's special collection was for the San Bernardino County Animal Shelter. Items collected included:

- 2 large shopping carts of newspapers
- 10 large shopping carts of blankets and towels
- 5 large bags of cat food
- 9 large bags of dog food
- 2 shopping carts of assorted plastic and metal bowls and assorted toys



- 1 large box full of assorted grooming supplies (shampoos, brushes, conditioners, etc.)
- 1 medium size folding cage with a roller cart.

The City of Rialto and the San Bernardino County Animal Shelter extended a big **Thank You** to all those who came out to donate and support the worthy cause.